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OR

EDINBURGH AMUSEMENT.

THURSDAY, MAY 25. 1769.

SPEECH *of the Right Honourable the* L— C——, *in a late* CELEBRATED CAUSE.

THE cauſe before us is, perhaps, the moſt ſolemn and important ever heard at this bar. For my own ſhare, I am unconnected with the parties: and having, with all poſſible attention, conſidered the matter both in public and private, I ſhall give my opinion with that ſtrictneſs of impartiality to which your Lordſhips have ſo juſt and equitable a claim. The queſtion before us is,—"Is the appellant the ſon of the late Lady Jane Douglas, or not?"——I am of the mind that he is; and own, that more ample and poſitive proof of a child's being the ſon of a mother, never appeared in a court of juſtice, or before any aſſize whatever.

The marriage of Lady Jane to Col. Stewart, Auguſt 10. 1746, is admitted on all hands. Her pregnancy in January 1748, and the progreſs of it, were obſerved by many people: at Aix-la Chapelle it was notorious; her ſtays were widened; the nuns of the convent of St Anne's diſcerned it, notwithſtanding Lady Jane's modeſty; the maid-ſervants are poſitive as to the fact: the Earl of Crawford wrote an account of it to the Duke of Douglas, not as an hearſay, but as a fact, of which he himſelf was fully ſatisfied by ocular inſpection; and if there be a pregnancy, there muſt be a delivery, which accordingly happened, by the poſitive evidence of Mrs Hewitt, who has depoſed, that—"ſhe received them into her lap as they came from Lady Jane's body."——She was delivered of twins on the 10th of July 1748, at Paris, in the houſe of Madam la Brun, in the Fauxbourg de St Germain. Lady Jane's ability to bear children, is eſtabliſhed by many witneſſes, and a miſcarriage after the birth of the twins, ſtill more and more proves the delivery.

But, my lords, there is another proof no leſs convincing, that the appellant is really the ſon of Lady Jane, and this ariſes from the uniform tenderneſs ſhewn towards him. It is in proof, that on every occaſion ſhe ſhewed all the fondneſs of a mother: when he caſually hit his head againſt a table, ſhe ſcreamed out, and fainted away: when her huſband, the colonel, was in priſon, ſhe never wrote to him without making mention of her ſons: ſhe recommends them to clergymen for the benefit of their prayers: is diſconſolate for the death of the youngeſt; takes the ſacrament; owns her ſurviving ſon; does every thing in her power to convince the world of his being hers; bleſſes and acknowledges him in her dying moments; and leaves him ſuch things as ſhe had. Sir John likewiſe ſhews the ſame tenderneſs in effect: he leaves him 50,000 merks by a bond in September 1763, ten years after the death of Lady Jane; and, on his death-bed, ſolemnly declares, before God, that the appellant is the ſon of Lady Jane;—"I make this declaration, ſaid he, as ſtepping into eternity."—— A man that is a thief may diſguiſe himſelf in public, but he has no occaſion for any maſk when in private by himſelf.

Theſe poſitive declarations convinced the Duke of Douglas; and he left his dukedom, and other eſtates, to his nephew the appellant, who was regularly ſerved heir thereto in September 1761, when he was poſſeſſed of all the birthright of a ſon, ſo far as the oaths of witneſſes, the acknowledgment of parents, and an eſtabliſhed habit and repute would go. The cruel aſperſions thrown out againſt Lady Jane and the colonel, had been refuted by the late Duke of Argyle and the Counteſs of Stair. No mortal doubted the appellant's being the ſon of Lady Jane, except Andrew Stewart, his father Archibald Stewart, Major Cochran, who is married to Stewart's ſiſter; with White of Stockbriggs, a principal actor in theſe ſcenes. Theſe doubted the matter; and Andrew Stewart, as by concert, went over to France, not to procure evidence of a real fact, but to ſuborn witneſſes to eſtabliſh an article that never exiſted except in their own imagination: the deſign was bad, and the means to accompliſh it, were no leſs criminal! It is needleſs to follow the ſearcher through all the ſcenes of his enquiry, the reſult of which was, to return to Scotland, enter the action againſt the appellant, and bring his own father to condemn him, at a time when the old gentleman was in a condition every way deplorable; and, taking advantage of his inaccuracies, he makes a ſecond tour to Paris, where he publiſhes a Monitoire, entirely to ſeduce witneſſes, and influence them to commit the blackeſt perjury. In this paper he deſcribes the perſon of Sir John Stewart, Lady Jane Douglas,

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and of Mrs Hewitt; aſſerts that they had purchaſed two children, whom they wanted to impoſe upon the world, in order to defraud a real heir of an immenſe eſtate and fortune; and inviting all who could give light into the matter, to come to his lodgings, which he particularly deſcribed.

Mr Stewart certainly appeared like the guardian of the Duke of Hamilton; a pompous title, which drove ſeveral to their own deſtruction, and in hopes of a reward. Among the number of thoſe was Madam Mignon, a glaſs-manufacturer's ſpouſe, who, after converſing with Andrew Stewart and his clerk, and receiving preſents from them, comes in before the Tournelle Criminelle, and depoſes, that ſhe had ſold her own child to foreigners, whom ſhe did not ſo much as know. Can a woman forſake her ſucking child? is a rhetorical remonſtrance handed to us from the higheſt authority.—The thing is incredible, and yet the woman has ſwore it!—A circumſtance ſufficient to render her teſtimony of no force, when oppoſed to the dying declarations of Lady Jane Douglas and Colonel Stewart, and to the poſitive oath of Mrs Hewitt, whoſe character is eſtabliſhed upon a very good foundation: But take the declaration of madam in all its extent, yet ſhe has ſaid nothing to affect the appellant: the time when, the people to whom, with every other circumſtance, prove her not to have been the mother of the young gentleman; his complexion, the colour of his eyes and hair, prove that he was not her's. The ſame thing might be ſaid of the ſon of Sanry, the rope-dancer, whom the council for the reſpondent would infer to be the child Sholto, the younger of the twins: and, as a ſtrong proof of the ſame, urged, that the two were but the ſame identical perſon under different names; and your Lordſhips were intreated to keep in your view the rupture, under which each of them laboured, in order to prove the identity! But how comes all out? Sanry's child could ſpeak in November 1749, but Sholto could not utter a word for ſome months after he came to Mr Murray's houſe in December 1749. And now evidence is offered to be produced at your Lordſhips bar, that the child Sholto had no rupture in 1749; nay, that he was as ſound as any perſon within theſe walls; certainly Mr Murray, the moſt material witneſs in this affair, is more to be credited than madam.

Your Lordſhips have heard much ingenuity diſplayed, in order to prove that Lady Jane's pregnancy was imaginary; the ſymptoms are allowed, but the reality is now denied, though once Andrew Stewart himſelf was forced to acknowledge, that Lady Jane was actually with child. If Lady Jane, or any other woman, had ſuch ſymptoms, it is impoſſible ſhe could have

have been eaſed of them ſo ſoon in any other manner than by a delivery; had ſhe been ill of a dropſy, her bulk would not have been totally diminiſhed in ſo ſhort a time as from the 2d of July to the firſt week of Auguſt, when all who ſaw her at Rheims concluded, that ſhe had but lately lain in. Great ſtreſs has been laid upon the letters ſaid to have been forged in the name of *Pierre la Marre*, the man-midwife, the perſon who delivered Lady Jane. I admit them to be forged; and yet this forgery is with me a proof of Lady Jane's innocence; Sir John's hardſhips are admitted; and if he, after ſo long a confinement, ſhould cauſe the letters that had paſſed between La Marre and him to be tranſcribed, in order to amuſe himſelf, or to ſatisfy Lady Jane that they were not loſt, it was no way criminal; Lady Jane received them, but obſerving they were not originals, ſhe laid them by: ſo conſcious was ſhe of her own innocence, that ſhe did not uſe them, nor ever would they have made their appearance, had it not been for the conduct of Andrew Stewart, who, upon getting an order to ſearch Lady Jane's repoſitories, found out theſe letters, produced them in court to Sir John, when under all the miſerable circumſtances of a man groaning under a load of years, infirmities, and the acuteſt pains.

The evidence of Godfroi, the landlord of the hotel de Chalons, in the rue St Martin, is contradictory and inconſiſtent, his books being every way defective and erroneous; nor does Andrew Stewart appear in a favourable light in this particular; when firſt he came to Godfroi's houſe, both the man and his wife were ignorant of the matter; neither the one nor the other recollected Lady Jane Douglas or her huſband, till Andrew Stewart, deſiring a ſight of the Livre d'Inſpecteur, he found two articles, one of them, "M. Fluratl Eſcoiſſois et ſa famille ſont entre, 8th Juliet, 1748;" and this he poſitively affirms, with oaths and imprecations, to be the hand-writing of Sir John Stewart, with which he pretended to be thoroughly acquainted; but he was obliged to retract, when other poſtages were found to be of the ſame hand-writing: this poſtage was found to be poſterior to one written on the 12th, and the landlady of the houſe declared, that ſhe herſelf had marked it down. He had fifteen rooms and ten cloſets, which they pretended always to be full, and yet in their book it does not appear there were above three perſons in them during Colonel Stewart's pretended abode; and, what is pretty ſtrange, they had many women lodgers during that year, and yet they depoſe, they remember none but this lady, whom Andrew Stewart would have to be Lady Jane Douglas. They even differ with reſpect to the names of their ſervants: the council

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at the bar have acknowledged the inaccuracy of the books, owing to the avocations of the man elſewhere, and to the inadvertency of his ſpouſe, continually hurried by a multiplicity of buſineſs. Beſides a poſtage in a book, ſuch as the Livre d' Inſpecteur, which, like a waſte-book, contains things juſt as they occur; or the Livre de Depenſe, to which the articles of the former are transferred, bear no manner of convincing proof, that the perſons mentioned in theſe ſtaid in ſuch and ſuch places, it being a cuſtomary thing to mark down the name of the perſon the moment he takes the lodging; and it is notorious, that many perſons have paid a week's, nay, a month's lodging, without ſleeping a night in it: and this is no more than equity, ſince the ſame was reſerved for their uſe.

But here, my Lords, the purſuers in this affair have deſtroyed their own cauſe; they have brought a ſort of proof, that Lady Jane Douglas was at Michelle's houſe, called Le petit hotel d'Anjou, in the rue Serpente, Fauxbourg, St Germain; and this at the very time when they would prove her to have been at the houſe of Godfroi, of whom ſo much has been ſaid and heard: Michelle and Godfroi diſagree in every thing, except in the irregularity of their books; and, indeed, it is hard to ſay which of the two excels moſt in that particular: but not to inſiſt on the irregularities, it is proved to be the practice in Paris, and of Michelle in particular, to write people's names in theſe police books, as entered on the day the room was hired, though the perſon does not enter for ſome days after.

To inſiſt on theſe things, my Lords, is tedious; and yet the importance of the cauſe requires it. One Madam Blainville ſwears, that on one of the days, betwixt the 8th and 13th of July, ſhe accompanied Lady Jane in a coach to take a view of Verſailles, and at another time to ſee the palace de Vendome; but this witneſs is, in every reſpect, contradicted by a multiplicity of evidence; and, in every view, her teſtimony appears to be abſurd and prepoſterous. Firſt, She is contradicted by Mrs Hewitt, whoſe depoſition bears great weight with me, as alſo by other witneſſes; for, *firſt*, ſhe, Blainville, ſays, that Sir John and his family were eight days in Michelle's before the child was brought to the houſe: whereas, Michelle's family all ſwear, that he was brought next day. *Secondly*, She ſays, that the child was given to the nurſe, La Favre, the very night of his arrival; that ſhe ſaw her carry him home with her; and that Lady Jane viſited him in the nurſe's houſe: whereas, on the contrary, it is proved, that Favre remained four days at the hotel, during which period

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Lady Jane went no where abroad. *Thirdly*, She depoſes, that no perſon viſited Sir John and Lady Jane during their ſtay at Michelle's; whereas, by the oath of Madam Favre, a gentleman viſited him there: be that as it may, Lady Jane was delivered on the 10th of July; and it is not in proof that ſhe went to Verſailles till the 27th: and it is no new thing for a lady, however delicate, ſo long after delivery, to go ſo far, in a country where the weather and roads are ſo remarkably fine, and the carriages every way eaſy and convenient.

All theſe objections to the reality of the appellant being the ſon of Lady Jane, are imaginary, and hitherto have been refuted to the honour of the innocent, and the more firmly eſtabliſhing him in the poſſeſſion of his birthright. They only tend to render her virtues more brilliant and illuſtrious; for, as the allegations never exiſted in fact, but in the imagination of Andrew Stewart; ſo, when put to the trial, they muſt neceſſarily fall to the ground. Thus he has aſſerted, that Col. Stewart received 250 *l.* from the Earl of Morton's banker, ſome days before Lady Jane's lying-in; and from thence would infer, that her delivery in Madam la Brun's, an obſcure houſe, was only to carry on the impoſture: but now it appears, that this money was not received till ſixteen days after. How unfortunate for the Duke of Hamilton to be under the direction of ſuch a man! one who has involved him in ſuch an immenſity of expences, and this by examining a multitude of witneſſes upon articles really foreign to the cauſe, which, indeed, is not the Duke of Hamilton's; it is the cauſe of Andrew Stewart, who has acted ſo ſtrange a part, as well deſerved the obſervation made at the bar, with great propriety, "That if ever I was to be concerned in any buſineſs with 'him, I ſhould look upon him with a jealous eye." I ſhall not follow the noble Lord who ſpoke laſt, through the various deſcriptions he has given us of midwifery. His obſervations may be juſt, but they cannot affect the character of Lady Jane Douglas, or the cauſe of the appellant, her ſon. The queſtion before us is ſhort: Is the appellant the ſon of Lady Jane Douglas, or not? If there be any Lords within theſe walls who do not believe in a future ſtate, theſe may go to death with the declaration, that they believe he is not. For my part, I am for ſuſtaining the poſitive proof, which I find weakened by nothing brought againſt it; and, in this mind, I lay my hand upon my breaſt, and declare, that in my ſoul and conſcience, I believe the appellant to be her ſon.

SPEECH

SPEECH *of the Right Honourable* L— M———d, *in the ſame* CAUSE.

I muſt own that this cauſe before us is the greateſt and moſt important that occurs to me: it is no leſs than an attack upon the virtue and honour of a Lady of the firſt quality, in order to diſpoſſeſs a young man of an eminent fortune, reduce him to beggary, ſtrip him of his birthright, declare him an alien, and a foundling. I have ſlept and waked upon the ſubject, conſidered it upon my pillow, to the loſing of my natural reſt, and, with all the judgment I was capable, have conſidered the various articles that make up this long and voluminous cauſe, upon which I am now to give my opinion before your Lordſhips.

I apprehend, that in the matter before us, three things are to be conſidered. The ſituation of Lady Jane before her delivery, at her delivery, and after it was over: to all which the Chancellor has ſpoken with great propriety. It is proved, beyond a poſſibility of doubt, that ſhe became pregnant in October 1747, at the age of forty-nine years, a thing far from being uncommon, as is atteſted by phyſicians of the firſt rank, and confirmed by daily experience; and that in the month of July ſhe was delivered of twins, one of whom died, the other is ſtill alive; he has been preſented to the world by Sir John Stewart and Lady Jane Douglas, as their ſon; nor can he be wreſted from the hands of his parents, unleſs ſome other had, in their life-time, claimed him as their child in a legal and juſtifiable way.

This action, my Lords, did not lie againſt the appellant as an impoſtor; for an impoſtor, in the ſenſe of the law, is a perſon who wilfully and knowingly pretends to be a different one from what he really is, in order to defraud another, and to impoſe under a fictitious name upon the public. If any be an impoſtor, it muſt have been Lady Jane, whom they ought to have proſecuted in her life-time, and not at the diſtance of nine years after her death: the method of diſcovering an impoſtor, is to bring his accomplice to the court before which the impoſtor was arraigned; and if, after a fair trial, the accuſed perſon be found guilty, let him take the conſequences thereof: but this the reſpondents have neglected: the appellant has been for five years, four months, and twelve days, the acknowledged ſon of Lady Jane Douglas; and, for thirteen years and two months, the ſon of Sir John Stewart, before any attempt was made to rob him of his parents, his birthright, and his all.

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As the Lord Chancellor has anticipated much of what I intended to ſpeak upon this ſubject; ſo I ſhall only touch at the ſituation and character of the deceaſed, whom I remember, in the year 1750, to have been in the moſt deplorable circumſtances. She came to me (I being ſolicitor-general) in a very deſtitute condition, and yet her modeſty would not ſuffer her to complain. The noblewoman was every way viſible, even under all the preſſure of want and of poverty. Her viſage and appearance were more powerful advocates than her voice; and yet I was afraid to offer her relief, for fear of being conſtructed to proffer her an indignity. In this manner ſhe came twice to my houſe, before I knew her real neceſſities; to relieve which now was my aim. I ſpoke to Mr Pelham in her favour: told him of her ſituation with regard to her brother the Duke of Douglas, and of her preſent ſtraits and difficulties. Mr Pelham, without delay, laid the matter before the King; the Duke of Newcaſtle then being at Hanover, was wrote to; he ſeconded the ſolicitation of his brother. His Majeſty immediately granted her 300 *l. per annum* out of his privy-purſe; and Mr Pelham was ſo generous as to order 150 *l.* of the money to be inſtantly paid. I can aſſure your Lordſhips, that I never did trouble his Majeſty for any other. Lady Jane Douglas was the firſt and the laſt who ever had a penſion by my means. At that time I looked upon her to be a Lady of the ſtricteſt honour and integrity, and to have the deepeſt ſenſe of the grandeur of the family from whence ſhe was ſprung; a family conſpicuouſly great in Scotland for a thouſand years paſt; a family whoſe numerous branches have ſpread over Europe; they have frequently intermarried with the blood royal; and ſhe herſelf was deſcended from Henry VII. I took care that his late Majeſty ſhould be made acquainted with her family and name, to the intent that, though ſhe was married to Col. Stewart, who had been in the rebellion 1715, yet he would paſs it over, as ſhe was of a race who had always been eminently loyal, her brother having charged as a volunteer at the head of the cavalry in the year 1715, when his couſin the Earl of Forfar died like an hero in the defence of the government; and that his Grace had, in the year 1745, treated the rebels and their leaders with contempt and ridicule: and indeed his Majeſty, from his wonted magnanimity, ſpoke nothing of her huſband; but treated her with all the reſpect due to a noblewoman of the firſt rank and quality: one who carried all the appearance of a perſon habituated to devotion; and, for a number of years, trained up in the ſchool of adverſity and diſappointment.

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Is it poſſible, my Lords, to imagine, that a woman of ſuch a family, of ſuch high honour, and who had a real ſenſe of her own dignity, could be ſo baſe as to impoſe falſe children upon the world,? Would ſhe have owned them on every occaſion? Was ever mother more affected for the death of a child, than ſhe was for that of Sholto, the younger of her ſons? "Will you, ſaid ſhe, indulge me to ſpeak of my ſon?—And cried out with great vehemency,—"O Sholto! Sholto! my ſon Sholto!"—And, after ſpeaking of his death, ſhe ſaid,—"She thanked God that her ſon Archie was alive. What, ſaid ſhe, would the enemies of me and my children ſay, if they ſaw me lying in the duſt of death, upon account of the death of my ſon Sholto? Would they have any ſtronger proof of their being my children, than my dying for them?" She ſtill inſiſted, that the ſhock which ſhe received by the death of Sholto, and other griefs ſhe had met with, were ſo ſevere upon her, that ſhe was perfectly perſuaded ſhe would never recover, but conſidered herſelf as a dying woman, and one who was ſoon to appear in the preſence of Almighty God, and to whom ſhe muſt anſwer. She declared, that the children, Archie and Sholto, were born of her body; and that there was one bleſſing, of which her enemies could not deprive her, which was her innocency, and that ſhe could pray to Almighty God for the life of her other ſon; that ſhe was not afraid for him, for that God Almighty would take care of him! And, what is remarkable, the witneſs, Mary Macrabie obſerved, that the grief for the loſs of the child grew upon her. Would ſhe, my Lords, have bleſſed her ſurviving child on her death-bed? Would ſhe have died with a lie in her mouth, and perjury in her right hand?—Charity, that thinketh no evil, will not ſuffer me for a moment to harbour an opinion ſo cruel and prepoſterons: or can we ſuppoſe, that two people, who had not wherewith to ſupport themſelves, would be ſolicitous, and ſhew all the tenderneſs of parents towards the children of creatures, who, forgetting the firſt principles of inſtinct and humanity, had ſold their children to people whom they did not ſo much as know by their names? The act of Joſeph's brethren in ſelling him, is repreſented as wicked and unnatural; but, indeed, the crime of Madam Mignon, and of Madam Sanry, is ſtill more black and atrocious!—To carry this a little further, ſuppoſe Lady Jane Douglas had acted this out of a principle of revenge toward the family of Hamilton, yet Sir John Stewart had no occaſion to do ſo, much leſs continue the vindictive farce after her death, eſpecially when married to another ſpouſe. And here we may ſee Sir John as much a parent to the appellant as Lady Jane; he was every way fond

of him; it is in evidence; I know it to be true: my ſiſter and I have been frequently at Mr Murray's with them, and were always delighted with the care we obſerved. No mortal harboured any thought of their being falſe children at that time, I mean in 1750 and 1751. Every perſon looked upon them as the children of Lady Jane Douglas and of Colonel Stewart. The Counteſs of Eglinton, Lord Lindores, and many others, have, upon oath, declared the ſame thing.

No ſooner does the colonel hear of the aſperſions at Douglas-caſtle, and of Mr Archibald Stewart's ſwearing, that Count Douglas, a French nobleman, had informed the Duke of Douglas, that they had been bought out of an hoſpital, than he returned an anſwer to Mr Loch, who gave the intelligence in a letter to Mrs Hewitt, and wrote him in all the terms of a man of ſpirit, cordially intereſted in the welfare and happineſs of his ſon; but he and Lady Jane begged the favour of the Chevalier Douglas, a French gentleman and officer, then at London, to acquaint his couſin the count with what was ſaid of him. This the chevalier undertook, and fulfilled with the fidelity of a man of honour; and the count, in conſequence of the application, wrote a letter, not only to Lady Jane, but to her brother the Duke, in all the language of politeneſs and humanity, diſowning what was ſaid of him.

But, my Lords, the Duke of Douglas himſelf was fully ſatisfied of the appellant's being the real ſon of his ſiſter Lady Jane; for, on beginning to be known after his marriage, and to reliſh the pleaſures of ſocial life, he became very inquiſitive "about the ſize, ſhape, and complexion of the appellant, and if he appeared to be a ſmart boy." He employed Sir William Douglas, and others in whom he could confide, to enquire of Mrs Hewitt, Lady Jane's companion, and of Euphemia Caw and Iſabel Walker, the two maid-ſervants, who had lived with them when abroad, and obſerved their conduct in their moſt unguarded moments, concerning the birth of the children: he even ſearched into the characters of theſe; and, it appears, from the depoſitions of clergymen and gentlemen of the firſt rank in that country, that they were women worthy to be believed. He even went in perſon to viſit Mrs Hewitt, converſed with her in preſence of his gentleman, Mr Greenſheils, concerning his ſiſter's delivery; and the accounts given by theſe, like the radii of a circle, all pointing towards one and the ſame center, confirming the reality of Lady Jane being the mother of the young gentleman; he was ſatisfied, acknowledged him for his nephew, and left him his heir.

If the Duke of Douglas, after ſo ſerious an enquiry, was convinced, why ſhould not we? It is true, his Grace has ſometimes

times expreſſed himſelf warmly againſt the ſurname of Hamilton, even in Lady Jane's life-time, but never ſo warmly as to prefer a ſuppoſititious child to the duke of that name; for he only declares, "that if he thought the children were Lady Jane's, he would never ſettle his eſtate on the family of Hamilton;" nor did he, till after detecting the frauds and conſpiracies that had been ſo long, and ſo induſtriouſly carried on againſt his ſiſter and himſelf, make any alteration in his firſt ſettlement.

After the Duke's death, the appellant was ſerved heir to his uncle, according to the form preſcribed by the law of Scotland, upon an uncontraverted evidence of his being the ſon of Lady Jane Douglas, takes poſſeſſion of the eſtate, and is virtually acknowledged heir by the Earl of Selkirk, and by the Duke of Hamilton's guardians themſelves; for theſe enter actions before the court of ſeſſion; declaring their rights to certain parts of the eſtates, upon ſome ancient claims, which the judges there declared to be groundleſs; but in the whole action, there was not the leaſt intimation that Mr Douglas was not the ſon of Lady Jane.

It is needleſs to trouble your Lordſhips with the conduct of the reſpondent's guardians at Paris, and elſewhere upon the continent. Nothing has been diſcovered that could throw the leaſt blemiſh upon the honour of Lady Jane Douglas, or Col. Stewart; they have indeed proved her ſtraits there, and his impriſonment here; but both theſe circumſtances carry a further confirmation that the appellant is their ſon; for, in every letter that paſſed between them, the children are named with a tenderneſs ſcarce to be believed; whereas, had they been counterfeits, as pretended, they would have been apt to upbraid one another for an act ſo manifeſtly tending to involve them in their ſufferings.

Suppoſe, my Lords, that Mignon, the glaſs-manufacturer's wife, the pretended mother of Mr Douglas, had depoſed the ſame things in Lady Jane's preſence, as ſhe has ſo long after her death: From her evidence it appears, that ſhe had never ſeen Lady Jane; by her words, both in private and public, ſhe ſeems to deſerve no manner of credit; the oath of Mr Murray, a principal witneſs, has deſtroyed every thing ſhe has aſſerted. The ſame thing might be ſaid of Saury, the rope-dancer's ſpouſe, whoſe child's rupture we were earneſtly deſired to keep in view, to prove him to have been the identical Sholto, the younger of the twins; and now evidence is offered, that the child Sholto had no rupture, but was as ſound as any within theſe walls. Your Lordſhips have been told, and, I believe, with great truth, that a gentleman, ſhocked at the

aſſertion,

aſſertion, had wrote to the council, that the influence ariſing from ſo falſe a ſuggeſtion might be prevented. I always rejoice to hear truth, which is the ornament of criticiſm, and the poliſhed gem that decorates a bar.

The ſcrutiny in France, followed by an action in Scotland, produced two things never intended by them; it brought forth a ſtriking acknowledgment of the appellant, by his father Sir John Stewart, as is manifeſt from the bond of proviſion, read at your Lordſhips bar; Sir John openly acknowledged him, before the court of ſeſſion, in the midſt of a crouded multitude, and when labouring under a load of anguiſh and pain: nay, when by himſelf, he ſolemnly declared before God, in the preſence of a juſtice of the peace, and two clergymen, that the young gentleman was his ſon. It likewiſe eſtabliſhed the character of Lady Jane; for, on examining the proof, obtained through the vigilance of the Ducheſs of Douglas, Lady Jane's reputation is unſullied and great; all who had the honour of being known to her, declared, that her behaviour attracted univerſal eſteem; and Madam Marie Sophie Gilliſſen, a maiden lady, with whom ſhe lodged ſeveral months, depoſes, that "Lady Jane was very amiable, and gentle as an angel." It is further proved, that the elder child, the appellant, was the exact picture of his father; and the child Sholto, as like Lady Jane, as ever child was like a mother.

I have always conſidered likeneſs as an argument of a child's being the ſon of a parent, and the rather, as the diſtinction between individuals in the human ſpecies, is more diſcernible than in other animals; a man may ſurvey ten thouſand people, before he ſees two faces perfectly alike; and in an army of an hundred thouſand men, every one may be known from another. If there ſhould be a likeneſs of features, there may be a diſcriminancy of voice, a difference in the geſture, the ſmile, and various other things; whereas a family-likeneſs runs generally through all theſe; for in every thing there is a reſemblance, as of features, ſize, attitude, and action: and here it is a queſtion, Whether the appellant moſt reſembled his father Sir John, or the younger Sholto reſembled his mother Lady Jane? Many witneſſes have ſworn to Mr Douglas being of the ſame form and make of body as his father; he has been known to be the ſon of Col. Stewart, by perſons who had never ſeen him before; and is ſo like his elder brother, the preſent Sir John Stewart, that, except by their age, it would be hard to diſtinguiſh the one from the other.

If Sir John Stewart, the moſt artleſs of mankind, was actor in the enlevement of Mignon and Sanry's children, he did, in a few days, what the acuteſt genius could not accompliſh for

years.

years. He found two children; the one the finiſhed model of himſelf; and the other the exact picture in miniature of Lady Jane. It ſeems nature had implanted in the children what is not in the parents: for it appears in proof, that in ſize, complexion, ſtature, attitude, colour of the hair and eyes, nay, and in every other thing, Mignon and his wife, Sanry and his ſpouſe, were, *toto cælo*, different from, and unlike to Sir John Stewart and Lady Jane Douglas. Among eleven black rabbits there will ſcarce be found one to produce a white one.

The reſpondent's cauſe has been well ſupported by the ingenuity of its managers, and great ſtreſs has been laid upon the not finding out the houſe where Madam la Brun lived, and where the delivery was effected; but this is no way ſtriking, if we conſider, that houſes are frequently pulled down to make way for ſtreets, and houſes are built upon the ground where ſtreets run before: of this there are daily examples in this metropolis. However, we need enter into no arguments of this kind, as there is a poſitive evidence before us; nor is it poſſible to credit the witneſſes, ſome of them of a ſacred character, when they ſpeak of Lady Jane's virtues, provided we can believe her to have been a woman of ſuch abandoned principles, as to make a mock of religion, a jeſt of the ſacrament, a ſcoff of the moſt ſolemn oaths, and ruſh, with a lie in her mouth, and perjury in her right hand, into the preſence of the Judge of all, who at once ſees the whole heart of man, and from whoſe all diſcerning eye no ſecrecy can ſcreen, before whom neither craft nor artifice can avail, nor yet the ingenuity and wit of lawyers can leſſen or exculpate: on all which accounts, I am for finding the appellant to be the ſon of Lady Jane Douglas.

Hiſtory of the Tetes-a-Tetes. G——— *and* Meſſalina.

IN the iſland of Utopia, famed for the valour, ingenuity and learning of the men, and for the beauty, accompliſhments, and wiſdom of the women, the fair Meſſalina drew her firſt breath. She was by birth deſtined to move in the moſt elevated ſphere of terreſtrial ſplendor. Her family connexions and alliances were inferior to none in the kingdom; and her perſonal charms entitled her to rank as one of the greateſt beauties at court: above the middle ſize, ſhaped with a graceful ſymetry; a fine oval face, with ſparkling blue eyes, which gave additional luſtre to a moſt tranſparent complexion, farther heightened by the fineſt auburn treſſes flowing down a taper neck, that rivalled all the touches of the imitative pencil.

Meſſalina

Meſſalina united to ſuch a figure, a great extent of knowledge acquired from books, with a tenacious memory and a vivacious imagination diſplayed to much advantage. No wonder then that ſo much beauty and good ſenſe, ſuch uncommon corporeal and mental accompliſhments, ſhould at once render her the univerſal toaſt and admiration of the men, the envy of the women, and the conſtant object of their detraction.

Ambition had hitherto kept all her other paſſions in due ſubordination; and ſhe had refuſed ſeveral matches that ſcarce any other woman in the kingdom would have rejected. She thought nature had intended her to ſhine in a ſuperior ſtation to the reſt of her countrywomen, and in this opinion ſhe would never yet liſten to the addreſſes of any ſuitor:

In pride, in reaſ'ning pride, our error lies,
All quit their ſpheres, and ruſh into the ſkies.

This aſſertion of Pope was never more ſtrongly verified than in the extraordinary character of Meſſalina, whoſe rank and beauty have been her ruin.

So fine a form could not fail to attract the attention and admiration of every beholder; and it was ſuggeſted, that her charms had ſtaggered even the virtue of the greateſt character in the nation. It is, at leaſt, generally believed, that her ambition led her to this conqueſt; as it was her maxim, that a r———l lover might be admitted upon terms leſs ceremonious than an admirer of inferior rank. Her conſtant devotion was univerſally noticed, during this attempt, in a certain chapel, and in a particular department allotted for ſome peculiar perſonages.

No ſooner did the ———'s nuptials take place, than the fervour of her devotion diminiſhed ſo much, that for ſeveral months ſhe was not ſeen either at that chapel, or any other place of worſhip.

Diſconcerted in this plan, Meſſalina, in a ſtate of deſperation, reſolved to accept of the firſt offer that was propoſed; and notwithſtanding her former ambitious views, ſhe received the addreſſes of a young gentleman, who though titled, was but a commoner; and a match was ſoon after concluded.

Every admirer of Meſſalina envied B———'s ſucceſs, as ſhe had before refuſed propoſals that were more ſuited to her rank; and therefore concluded, that he was the real object of her wiſhes.

Such a match produced conſequences that might naturally be expected from it: as love had no ſhare in the union, ſo no deſire of promoting connubial felicity animated either breaſt.

Meſſalina,

Meſſalina, who wedded through pique and diſappointment, and who openly accuſed her huſband of defects ſhe was reſolved to ſupply, conſidered him as an object of contempt and ridicule; whilſt ſhe encouraged the compliments and importunities of every ſingle man of rank. B——— was too deeply engaged with race-horſes and jockies, to attend to his wife's coquetries. This indifference encouraged her to go ſtill greater lengths; and Clodius, the happy Clodius, was generally known to baſk in the radiance of her charms, whilſt B——— alone appeared ignorant of his rival's ſucceſs.

The barrier of chaſtity once deſtroyed, the ſex ſeldom know any reſtraint. Clodius was not without imperfections, and Meſſalina ſpeedily diſcovered them. Her vanity prompted her to imagine, that a woman of her figure and rank was entitled to the adulation of all mankind, and that it was doing them too much honour to confine her favours to one admirer.

A ſucceſſion of lovers had not yet opened B———s eyes; and though an intrigue with a celebrated tragedian at B——l made a great noiſe, ſtill did it not in the leaſt diſturb his repoſe, till her connection with G——— became ſo public, that broad ſhame ſtared him in the face; and he now firſt began to lament his wife's infidelity.

Though jealouſy is the fouleſt weed that is nurtured in the ſoil of love, the oppoſite indifference and inſenſibility of B——, for ſuch a length of time, to Meſſalina's licentiouſneſs, if not a vice, borders ſo much upon it, as to be full as contemptible, if not as fatal, as Othello's groundleſs ſuſpicions.

G——— was the younger brother of an n——— n———, who enjoying the greateſt part of the patrimonial eſtate, had left him little other poſſeſſions than the hopes of promotion in the army. If G——— was but a ſoldier of fortune, he had many recommendations both perſonal and mental, which made him eſteemed by all his acquaintance, and particularly admired by the ladies. His figure was tall and genteel, his features regular and expreſſive, his hair remarkably fine, and his whole perſon completely elegant: add to this, the happy art of pleaſing in converſation, and convincing in argument, founded on great natural parts, cultivated by a claſſical education.

When G——— had juſt attained his twentieth year, in the bloom of manhood, he made an acquaintance with Meſſalina, at a time that B—— was deeply engaged in the metropolis, in ſettling ſeveral capital betts with ſome members of the jockey club, which were to be decided at the next Newmarket meeting.

G———'s youth and beauty were altogether irreſiſtible, and Meſſalina found him a man ſo completely accompliſhed, that ſhe encouraged

encouraged all his advances; but as they could not give a full looſe to their criminal paſſion under B———'s roof, they agreed to make an excurſion where they ſhould be unknown. It was accordingly reſolved to ſet off for the continent; but the difficulty lay to eſcape from the houſe, which was in the county of K—, without being obſerved by the ſervants. He propoſed to retire to a neighbouring village, where he would wait for her, and prepare a poſt-chaiſe to carry them to the neareſt ſea-port in order to embark. They ſucceeded ſo far in this project, that ſhe reached the place of rendezvous without being ſuſpected. Whilſt they were here waiting for the poſt-chaiſe, the waiter coming into the room ſomewhat abruptly, whilſt the lovers were making a declaration of their mutual fondneſs, and G———s thinking he had by that ſurprize ſeen Meſſalina's face, which till now had been hidden by her handkerchief, her paramour drew hisſword, and had it not been for the interceſſion of the lady, bloodſhed might have enſued. Though the waiter's curioſity was not gratified, his ſuſpicions were much increaſed, which he communicated to his miſtreſs. She waited at the door to ſalute them upon their departure, when unluckily Meſſalina running to the chaiſe with her face concealed, and tripping in her ſack, was compelled to take away her hand, and diſcover herſelf to the landlady, who perſonally knew her.

This diſcovery induced the lovers to alter their route, and when the poſt-boy was got a little way from the inn, G——— ordered him to drive to the d—— of ———'s at K——; but here he met with a reception very different from what he expected; for though this n——— was G———'s moſt intimate friend, he denied him a refuge upon ſuch an occaſion; and upbraiding him in the ſharpeſt terms for his conduct, they were thus obliged to proceed to their former deſtination.

The hoſteſs was no ſooner convinced that Meſſalina was the fair fugitive ſhe ſuſpected, than ſhe ſent information to B——'s houſe; and from hence an expreſs was diſpatched to the capital.

The diſorder that this information occaſioned in Meſſalina's family, is ſcarce to be conceived. Meſſengers were immediately ſent to interrupt their journey; and her own ſiſter ſet out poſt, to endeavour to diſſuade her from ſuch a fatal ſtep.

It is ſaid, that when B—— remonſtrated to Meſſalina's brother, on the ill treatment he had received from his wife, the former replied, He ſhould have ſuffered her to have been drowned two years before. Though this expreſſion ſavours ſtrongly of inhumanity, it is difficult to determine how far the reſentment of a diſhonoured brother might have carried him.

Meſſalina's

Meſſalina's ſiſter overtook her, and brought her back to her houſe, where ſhe has ſince remained incog. ſeparate from her huſband.

It is pretended, that B—— conſulted ſome of his moſt intimate friends, whether he ſhould challenge G——— for the injury he had done him; when it is aſſured he was diſſuaded from it by a wag, who told him, "If he went alphabetically to work, it would not be G———'s turn theſe ten years, though his name was but in the ſeventh letter of the alphabet." The conceit had its effect, and no blood has been ſpilt on the occaſion.

The world are now divided in their opinion, whether B—— deſerves moſt pity or contempt. This we ſhall leave the reader to determine; only obſerving, that this hiſtory may ſerve as a leſſon to deter the vain-glorious part of mankind from chuſing their help-mates for life, from motives of falſe ambition, or, having choſen them, to pay leſs attention to their wives than their horſes.

Why charge mankind on heav'n their own offence,
And call their woes the crimes of providence?
Blind, who themſelves their miſeries create,
And periſh by their folly, not their fate. POPE.

[Notwithſtanding the following rural dialogue on a late jovial occaſion, has appeared in ſeveral of the other papers,—in compliance with the ſolicitation of many of our Readers, we have given it a place here.]

Extract of a letter from Lochwinnoch, *Renfrew-ſhire, Apr.* 17.

——And we too, the inhabitants of this *village* rejoiced exceedingly to hear that Mr Douglas was——*his mother's ſon!* Our ſayings and doings upon this occaſion, were many, great, and various. A *modern quarto* could not contain the half of them. I ſend you only one ſcene betwixt two of our *old women*. It was taken down with care by an able hand, who was ear-witneſs of the confabulation. I am, *&c.*

ELSPETH ſola, *looking through a broken lozen of her window.*

WHAT can a' this mean? The bell fa'n a-ringen! the drum fa'n a beatten! the pipes fa'n a-playen! the collours flyen, and a' the folk young and auld, rinnen wi' their guns!—What can it be?—I ha'e ſeen nae ſic ſight, nae ſic hurly burly ſin Marr's year!—It canna be the King o' France and the Pretender landed again; for the folks are a' in a joy-

ſou mood.—It maun be ſome rejoicing about the King of Pruſſia!—It canna be that neither; for it's lang ſin we heard ought about him.——Pauli may ha'e beat the French; or eablens, Wilks, that ſinfou fallow, hang'd himſel'.—It maun ſurely be ſome kind o' news frae our *laird* at parliament,—Wives, weans, lads, laſſes, auld and young, a' o'-fit?

Enter JANET.

Jan. [*To herſelf, as ſhe enters.*] That was ane and a half, wi' a witneſs!—Awa wi' my whiſky!—The tow frae my very rock!—The very carded tow frae my rock!—But heal be his heart, he is ay for his kintry. [*To* Elſpeth] I'm e'en, Elſpeth, comen hirplin ben wi' my cards, to clawt the knaps out o' a pickle mair o't. What a ſouple trick, true ye, has that loon Rab, my oye, play'd me? Is he nae aff wi' my tow for colſin, and to the croſs wi' my graybeard o' whiſky?

Elſ. Wi' your graybeard o' whiſky, ſay ye?

Jan.——Ay, wi' my three pint graybeard o' whiſky, and in a guid hour, to drink the parliament, and *Douglas*, wha has win his plea.

Elſ. Say ye me ſae? Say ye me ſae, woman? Has *Douglas* win his plea! Has the parliament at *London* gi'en *Douglas* his plea! An' ha'e we yet a *Douglas!* Fair fa them! Fair fa them, Janet! O Janet, Janet, fair fa them? [*weeps.*]—O Janet, Janet, Janet!

Jan. O Elſpeth, yes? O dear ay, Elſpeth, yes! *Douglas* has e'en at laſt got the better o' them! Ay, Elſpeth! *Poor man*, ay, ay! [*both weep.*]

Elſ. O Janet!—*Jan.* O Elſpeth!—*Elſ.* Janet, Janet, ay, ay!—*Jan.* Yes, Elſpeth, O ay, woman! Ay, ay! You and I ha'e ſeen auld times! Monny, monny changes! Monny changes!

Elſ. Ay, changes, woman! But O, ye ha'e gi'en me a glad heart! Is't true? Can it be true? I fear it meikle.

Jan. True! As true's the ſin's i' the lift. It's in black and white frae Edinburgh.

Elſ. Black and white frae Edinburgh! Frae Edinburgh, ſay ye? We manna think a's goſpel that comes *now* frae Edinburgh.—Baith his *father* and *mither* war ta'en frae him, woman, at Edinburgh!

Jan. That's o'er true, Elſpeth; but there's guid and ill in Edinburgh, as well's in ither ſpats. I ha'e ſome likings yet for Edinburgh, for a' that's happen'd, tho' I ne'er ſaw't. Our kings liv'd there, woman; and our John's plea, about the maillen, is there, ye ken. He has win it, woman, nae fewer than nine times! But was na't droll, that ere it had been there twa months, his ain man o' law threep'd his name was

Andrew!

Andrew! Andrew was Arthur's ſecond ſin. The land, ye ken, was neither conqueſt nor purchaſe, but heretage; for it came by Arthur's ſtep father's brither Thomas; and ſae fa's to the auld ſin; and had our *John* been *Andrew*, he wou'd ne'er ha'e ſeen a hair o't.

Elſ. Gin ye loſs as aft's ye ha'e win, ye'll rue that e'er ye try'd it. But, O Janet, are ye ſure *Douglas* has win?

Jan. Scripture, Elſpeth! Downright ſcripture! [*a volley at the croſs*] Do ye hear that? Do ye hear them now?

Elſ. The guns!—Huzza—huzza—huzza—The drum!—Thank heaven, there's ſtill a *Douglas* in our land! O how I like the King, the Parliament, and the gallant name o' *Douglas!*——But was na't a filthy trick to take awa' the *eleven days?* That was a wicked thing, Janet; that was a wicked thing, to change our terms, our fairs, our markets, to change the very *Sunday* to anither day!—I wiſh the land may be forgi'en. I now heartily forgi'e them. *Douglas, Douglas,* makes up for a'!

Jan. But, Elſpeth, what ſhall I tell ye? Was nae *Piercie* his ſteeve friend?

Elſ. Piercie, quothye! *Piercie* his friend! Eh, woman, was na that brave! gallant, o' *noble Piercie!*—Let it ne'er be heard that *Piercie* prov'd his friend, when *Scotland* prov'd his fae!—But come, caſt awa' your cards, and let's ha'e a pint to the King, parliament, and *noble* name o' *Douglas;* nor ſhall we forget *Piercie,* his gallant friend. [*A cheer at the croſs. Elſpeth repeats after them*] Huzza—huzza—huzza—Three huzzas, Janet. Bleſs their honeſt ſauls!—A's right now!—This kintry will yet ſtand!—I now forgi'e the very *union* itſel'!—But Janet, let's firſt hirple out, and ſee the fun, then we *ſhall* ha'e a warm bicker o' the beſt o't. [*In going out, both ſing to its own tune*]

Lord DOUGLAS *on a milk-white ſteed,*
Moſt like a Baron bold,
Rode foremoſt of the company,
Whoſe armour ſhone like gold, &c.

An amuſing and inſtructive Queſtion.

WHAT is that which came into the world ſoon after Adam; has been productive of much evil, and much good; has won, yet loſt kingdoms; bears at this preſent time much ſway; has only two competitors, over whom it frequently triumphs, but in the end is generally diſgraced?

POETRY.

POETRY.

A THOUGHT on DEATH:

Written in a Fit of Sickneſs.

ALAS! 'tis all in vain; 'twill never be:
Not mines of gold from fate can ſave,
Or bribe th' inexorable grave,
In vain are all your ſchemes of baffling breath;
deſtiny.
The wealthy with the poor reſigns his
They, tho' ſo much unequal here,
Muſt one day both alike appear,
Alike muſt moulder in the domes of death.
No, were thy wond'rous mind inſpir'd
With brighter thoughts than thoſe which Dryden fir'd;
When once the ſiſters cut the fatal twine
Not all thy learning can renew thy line.

To ſome church-yard reſort,
Where the grim tyrant keeps his court, ſpread,
Where his immenſe plantations
There learn the end of man;
Learn that thy life is but a ſpan,
Which will ere long contract, and ſink thee to the dead.
The duſt which that abode contains
Was once as much alive as you,
As much of human nature knew;
But now the ſouls that did inform the clay
At length are wing'd away,
And theſe poor atoms are the whole remains.

See yonder monument on high diſplay'd,
Of ſhining, poliſh'd marble made.
Here the pale prince a lordly ſlave does keep, croud,
That ſilenc'd with a nod the gazing
Look'd mighty things, and bluſter'd loud:
But hark—an univerſal ſilence reigns
O'er all the ſolitary plains;
And he at length has talk'd himſelf aſleep. trace,
His pedigree no more he now does
Or boaſt the grandeur of his ancient race:
No more the rabble to his lordſhip bow;
And bare ſix foot of earth is all his portion now.

See there, by no inſcription known,
Without or epitaph or ſtone,
A fam'd philoſopher reclines his head,
And undiſtinguiſh'd mingles with the dead:
Up to the ſtars on fancy's wings he flew,
And with his pencil wonders drew;
But whilſt he nobly did aſpire,
And aim'd at myſt'ries ſtill higher,
Ere he cou'd paint the wonder well,
Death gave him an arreſt, and down his pencil fell.
Sure learning ſhines in vain, when thus we ſee,
That nothing has a tomb, but no remembrance be.

Cloſe at his feet an ideot lies,
Whoſe wretched poverty of ſenſe
Did pleaſure to the gay diſpenſe,
But pity to the wiſe.
There, free from his inſulting foes,
The grave receives him in its arms to reſt:
No dangers now diſturb his breaſt,
But all is ſolitude and ſoft repoſe.
Alas! 'tis very ſtrange, you'll ſay,
That this cold, mould'ring lump of clay
Should full as learned be,
As that great maſter of profound philoſophy.

Since nothing then can bribe a moment's breath,
But all alike ſubmit to death,
How ſhould we ſtrive to reconcile the way, (of day?
And ſmooth our paſſage to the realms
Then when the fatal hour at length is come,
And calls us to the cold, cold tomb,
When ſadly languiſhing we lie,
Our ſouls upon the wing to go,
From this dark, melancholy vale below,
And friends ſtand weeping by;
Tranſported at the proſpect each may ſay,
"Thrice welcome, God of Night, for I have liv'd my day."

A SKETCH for A. D. 1769.

BREATHING ſedition, a raſh fiery band,
Of all th' unſettled humours of the land,
With brazen front rebellious gives the law, (draw:
And free-born riot bids the king with-
Guiltleſs and juſt, to all that's good inclin'd,
And almoſt to a fault humane and kind.
They'd carve their way through blood to what they ſeek,
And change their plan and doctrine once a-week,

The

The proud inferior,—Levelling's his part,
How'er diſguis'd, a tyrant in his heart.
The deſperate, whoſe ebbing cath runs low,
By gen'ral rapine truſts to ſee it flow.
Who pines for fame, with ſpecious parts elate,
Dreams of each rogue that did ſubvert a ſtate.
The mob-led patriot, idol of a day,
Barters his truth and ſoul for one huzza.
The private vice-monger, by public zeal, (will.
Purges the venial whole, and ſins at
Call ſtatemen in ſucceſſion fill the cry,
And make it one continued dazzling lie.
Thus motely, claſhing intereſts combine, (and join.
Which no good cauſe could e'er unite
Thus anarchy to government pretends,
And freedom's paraſites are deem'd her friends. (to the ground,
Such friends as brought proud Athens
As Rome once nurs'd, and England now has found. (it's weight;
The fruitful bough that breaks beneath
The crowded ſail that ſinks the golden freight;
The blood too rich that burſts the turgid vein; (fertile plain;
The high ſwoln ſtream that drowns the
To theſe true mirors freedom may reſort, (ſport:
To view her wanton, ſenſeleſs, cruel
In theſe the patriot ſpirit's amply ſeen,
And all the miſchiefs of the frantic ſcene.
O Liberty! the luſt thy charms inſpire,
Endangers thee, and ſets the world on fire; (bleſs,
Chaſte liberty may God protect and
And damn the proſtitute that apes her dreſs!

Inſcription on an elegant Monument, erected in the Abbey church of Bath, to the memory of the late Mr Quin.

THAT tongue which ſet the table on a roar.
And charm'd the public ear, is heard no more:
Clos'd are thoſe eyes, the harbingers of wit,
Which ſpake, before the tongue, what Shakeſpeare writ:
Cold is that hand, which living was ſtretch'd forth,
At friendſhip's call, to ſuccour modeſt worth;
Here lies JAMES QUIN: Deign reader to be taught,
Whate'er thy ſtrength of body, force of thought,
In nature's happieſt mould however caſt,
To this complexion thou muſt come at laſt. D. GARRICK.

A Favourite Song in the EPHESIAN MATRON, performed at Ranelagh.

IF I was a wife, and my deareſt dear life,
Took it into his noddle to die,
E'er I took the whim, to be buried with him,
I think I'd know very well why.

If poignant my grief, I'd ſearch for relief,
Not ſink with the weight of my care;
A ſalve might be found, no doubt above ground,
And I think I know very well where.

Another kind mate ſhould give me what fate
Wou'd not from the former allow:
With him I'd amuſe, the hours you abuſe,
And I think I'd know very well how.

'Tis true I'm a maid, and ſo't may be ſaid
No judge of the conjugal lot;
Yet marriage, I ween, has a cure for the ſpleen,
And I think I know very well what.

To the GOOD PEOPLE of BRITAIN.

OF parties the tools, of paſſions the ſlaves,
How can you be thus in the dark yet;
Nor ſee that you quarrel, for which fools and knaves
Shall ſell you like ſheep at a market.
Of valour undaunted, of ſpirit more pure,
Who knows not you ſcorn to be bullied?
But, alas! for your good, oh, were it as ſure,
That you were not ſo eaſily cullied!

On a Dumb, but very Ingenius Boy.

HAPPY boy, no more complain;
Nor think thy loſs of ſpeech a pain:
Nature has us'd thee, like good liquor,
And cork'd thee but to make thee quicker.

HISTORY.

HISTORY.

MAY 18.—to 25.

TURKEY.

Frontiers of TURKEY, APRIL 19.

THE fleet which the Porte is going to ſend by the Black Sea as far as Aſoph, conſiſts of upwards of 240 ſail, among which are 30 ſhips of the line. The tranſports which are to carry the troops and baggage, are very numerous. The new ſtandard, in the room of that of Mahomet, which is to be carried to the army, is ſo ornamented with pearls and jewels, that when it is diſplayed in the ſun it dazzles the ſight to look at it.

BANKS of the DANUBE, APRIL 25. We have juſt received advice from Conſtantinople, that the Turks, upon the occaſion of removing the ſtandard of Mahomet, made a grand proceſſion through the city, all Chriſtians upon this occaſion were forbid to appear in the ſtreets, or at their windows; but the wife and daughter of the miniſter of one of the firſt powers of Europe, being excited by curioſity, placed themſelves at a ſecret window to obſerve the proceſſion, which was no ſooner diſcovered by the Turks, than they attacked the ambaſſador's houſe, and endeavoured to force an entrance; but the ſervants of the miniſter oppoſing them, well armed, a dreadful fray enſued, in which no leſs than 100 perſons loſt their lives, and the ambaſſador's daughter was ſaid to be mortally wounded. As ſoon as the Porte was acquainted with this outrage, the ring-leaders of the rioters were taken into cuſtody, and four of their heads were directly ſtruck off and ſent to the miniſter, with aſſurances from the Grand Signior, that all poſſible ſatisfaction ſhould be made him for the injury he had received.

RUSSIA.

PETERSBURGH, APRIL 11. We received advice a few days ago, that a body of Ruſſian troops, conſiſting of three battalions, 1000 Coſſacks, and 200 huſſars, have taken the important fortreſs of Azoff, without the leaſt loſs. Nothing is more extraordinary than the negligence of the Ottoman Porte with reſpect to the preſervation of a place of ſo much conſequence to them in the preſent ſituation of affairs. The court has ordered 3000 men to be employed in repairing the fortifications.

By letters arrived this day from Poland, we hear that prince Galitzin, at the head of the Ruſſian army, opened the trenches before Choczim on the 5th inſtant, and that the Turks had retired, after throwing a body of 10,000 men into that fortreſs.—Alſo that the ſon of the Chan of Tartary had fallen into an ambuſcade of a party of Coſſacks, and was delivered into the hands of the Ruſſians.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, APRIL 28. The royal fleet is completed, and is gone out into our Road, but its deſtination and the time of its ſailing remain a ſecret. It conſiſts of eight men of war, viz. two of 70 guns, three of 60 guns, and three of 50 guns, and two frigates of 30 guns each.

HAMBURGH, MAY 1. A new treaty of commerce between the court of France and this city, was ſigned the firſt of laſt month, by the marquis de Noailles, miniſter plenipotentiary from his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to the Circle of Lower Saxony, and the deputies from our ſenate; and yeſterday the ratifications of the ſaid treaty were exchanged.

ITALY.

ROME, APRIL 22. The proceedings of the conclave are kept extremely ſecret; and we have yet no foundations to gueſs who will accede to the papal chair. A certain princeſs found means, a few days ago, to deceive the Swiſs guards, and got into the conclave, in order to converſe with a cardinal, her uncle. Another woman of great diſtinction attempted alſo to get in, but was uſed with great roughneſs, on being detected by the guards, whoſe conduct on this occaſion was approved of by the conclave.

CORSICA.

LEGHORN, APRIL 14. "Our laſt accounts from Corſica adviſe, that a large detachment of French troops having advanced too near Tavagna, had

had fallen into an ambuſcade of Corſican volunteers, who attacked them ſo briſkly, that though they immediately fled, the Corſicans made 200 of them priſoners, beſides a great number killed and wounded. The natives took all the enemy's baggage."

BASTIA, APRIL. 15. "Gen. Paoli has not near ſo many troops under his command as his partiſans give out; nevertheleſs it is ſuppoſed that the enſuing campaign will be a very bloody one. The count de Vaux is determined to puſh his operations with vigour. On the 11th inſt he ſent a detachment of artillery to ſeize all the arms of the inhabitants of Cape Corſe. We daily receive ſupplies of proviſions of all kinds, but every thing is very dear."

CIVITA-VECCHIA, APRIL 17. Lord Pembroke and lord Bute's ſon embarked, a few days ago, for Corſica, where they are gone to pay their reſpects to gen Paoli.

SIENNA, APRIL 21. We hear that the French king has appointed count Marbœuf governor-general of the kingdom of Corſica. This campaign is expected to be extremely bloody; fifteen battalions more are ordered to embark from Provence, to reinforce the count de Vaux, under convoy of ſeveral men of war and bomb veſſels, which are deſtined for the ſiege of Iſola Roſa.

A letter from San Fiorenzo, dated April 21. ſays, "This moment ſix battallions of freſh troops arrived here, which number completes the fourteen granted to the count de Vaux, for ſubjugating the iſland of Corſica. Two of the Tartans who accompanied this convoy, and whom contrary winds had ſeparated from the reſt, were taken by a Corſican armed veſſel from the iſle of Rouge."

They write from Corſica, that gen. Paoli had lately made a ſpeech to his partiſans, wherein, amongſt other things, he ſaid, "I forſee that we have no harveſt to hope for this year, and therefore ſhall take care to provide againſt the want of it. Grain and biſcuit are already arrived; and you may depend, from the aſſurances I have received, that we ſhall neither want arms, ammunition, nor money.—On another occaſion he told his countrymen, "that before the month of July next, if they behaved properly, they would probably be their own maſters; at the ſame time adviſing them to take whatever ſteps they liked beſt; but that, for his own part, he was determined to defend his country to the laſt drop of his blood, in conjunction with four or five thouſand ſelect friends, whoſe courage and fidelity he could depend on."

FRANCE.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from PARIS.

"... The notion of the quadruple alliance which prevailed ſo much, ſome time ago, begins now to vaniſh. The politics of this court are, however, ſomewhat myſterious: but it is thought by moſt, there has been more of wild precipitation than of deep deſign, in the whole proceedings of the court. The attempt on Corſica appears attended with great expence, and almoſt inſuperable difficulties; but they are ſuch as muſt have been foreſeen by every intelligent perſon, as they had their foundation in the mountainous ſtate of the country, thence fortified by nature with impregnable receſſes and inacceſſible defiles; and in the hardy, bold, indomitable diſpoſition of the people. The acquiſition of this iſland would not, moreover, ballance a ſmall part of the expence of gaining and keeping it. The utmoſt convenience would be the providing a lurking place, in time of war, for veſſels to annoy the Engliſh trade in that part of the Mediterranean; but thoſe veſſels would be expoſed to deſtruction from the Britiſh fleets; as there are no harbours which might not be forced with a trifling loſs. The deſign of ſupporting the Roman Catholic intereſt in Poland, by bringing the Turks and the Swedes on Ruſſia, is equally vain in the intention, and fruitleſs in the event, with the invaſion of Corſica. The power of the Ottoman Porte is great, but unweildy, diſjointed, and inert, from long ſupineneſs: nor is the cabinet of that court leſs deficient in directive judgment, than the military in diſcipline: their delay of taking the field, the repulſion of the Tartars, the advances of the Ruſſian army in Moldavia, which will render the Turkiſh provinces the ſeat of war, all manifeſt the truth of this obſervation. The inciting the Swedes to involve themſelves in hoſtilities with the Czarina, is a feeble effort to promote the ſame views. The poverty and divided ſtate of the country, with the formidable controul of Denmark, render

render the utmoſt exertion of the Swediſh power too contemptible to give any material diverſion to the Ruſſian army. To conclude, the great expence which the French court has incurred in the forces ſent to the Eaſt-Indies, in dependence, moſt probably, of an opportunity to uſe them, when their practices on the jealous and ardent ſpirit of the Engliſh to foment diviſions, had thrown their public affairs into confuſion, of which the miſcarriage is likely to happen, completes the weakneſs and abſurdity of their ſyſtem, and ſhews they are not better enabled to carry on ambitious views by the arts of the cabinet, than by their military power."

EAST-INDIES.

Extract of a letter from Bengal.

"Mr Vereſt, our governor, talks of going home this year, and Mr Cartier is ordered to ſucceed him in the chair; but if Mr Sullivan has carried the laſt April election, I ſuppoſe we ſhall have Mr Vanſittart over again: In that caſe he will juſt come over in time to take charge in a war againſt Suja ul Dowla, which will inevitably break out within a year from this time. His warlike preparations have, for ſome time paſt, raiſed our ſuſpicions, and engaged our attention. His troops, in point of numbers and diſcipline, his artillery and his arms, are deemed very little inferior to ours. His reaſons for theſe preparations are, that he wants to reduce to obedience ſome countries to the northward of him; but it is much ſuſpected that he has an eye to Bengal; for what avails a treaty with a black prince, when under the influence of ambition and ſelf-intereſt? It is no tie upon him when he thinks himſelf able to cope with us, and ſerves only to prevent our keeping him in that ſtate of ſubjection to us, which is highly neceſſary to preſerve our influence in the country."

Other advices ſay, "That colonel Smith, Mr Cartier, and Mr Ruſſel, had been ſent ambaſſadors to Suja ul Dowla, in order to enquire into the reaſons of his extraordinary preparations for war, and to demand a categorical anſwer; and that he had given them the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of his fixed reſolution to keep peace with the Engliſh, and had even offered to come down to Calcutta with a retinue of no more than fifty perſons, in order to ſettle a new treaty."

AFRICA.

Extract of a letter from a Dutch factor on the coaſt of Africa, to his correſpondent in Amſterdam, dated Feb. 10. 1769.

"A Britiſh ſquadron, under the command of capt. Tonyn, arrived here ſome time ago. The conduct of this officer has already produced a great change in the commercial, as well as political affairs of this country. The Engliſh factories have new life, and boaſt every where of the ſolid foundation on which he has and is eſtabliſhing every ſettlement. If a peace ſhould be made with the kingdom of Barrah, adieu to all our trade. The French are as much diſpleaſed with the behaviour of this commander as we are. The treatment he gave our ſquadron was very cavalier; and notwithſtanding our commander declared they were rather ſcant of proviſions, he was compelled to leave the coaſt in a few days. Never was any man ſo tenacious of the privileges the Engliſh claim, and now, indeed, every where aſſume to themſelves in theſe parts, or ever treated the neutral powers with a more imperious ſway; for he has not yielded to any remonſtrance whatever. If the ſtates do not ſend a more powerful ſquadron, the moſt advantageous branches of our trade is gone. Indeed, Sir, our ſquadron, as well as trading ſhips, have been treated rather like pirates, than forces of the high and mighty ſtates, and our factories like dens of thieves. The only reſource we have is to endeavour to widen the breach between the Engliſh and the king of Barrah, in conjunction with the French emiſſaries, whom we found very inſtrumental in perſuading the king to declare war; a war, from which we had the greateſt expectations, and which was not effected at a ſmall expence to us both, and coſt the moſt magnificent preſents ever known to be made in this kingdom; and we had the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of protection and commercial acquiſition that ever was made to Europeans. But how great is the change!

our ſhips drove from protecting us; even the French commander put to ſea to prevent any affront being offered him (as we ſuppoſe), when he was aſſured of the treatment of our ſhips. The natives naturally gave up all their engagements with us, on ſeeing our inability, and, in ſhort, this vaſt tract of coaſt is become entirely Engliſh. The effect of this great change is too obvious to you, who are ſo intimately acquainted with every part of the trade, and too alarming to us, who are the immediate ſufferers, to need any comment. All we can hope for is, a ſufficient force being ſent to command ſome reſpect from the natives, which will certainly be the only method to reſtore our expiring commerce."

AMERICA.

SAVANNA in GEORGIA, FEB. 8. "Capt. Langford, who arrived here a few days ago from St Lucia in Jamaica, informs us, that before he ſailed, a Spaniſh veſſel arrived from Cuba, the people on board of which ſaid, 300 houſes were lately deſtroyed on that iſland by an earthquake."

A letter from thence, dated Feb. 18. ſays, "We are told the Choctaws ſtill earneſtly perſiſt in their war againſt the Creeks; by ſome late accounts, a large army of them had got into the Creek nation, and would have cut off a whole town, had not the greateſt part of the inhabitants fled; a few of what remained they barbarouſly murdered, ſparing no ſex nor age, carried off ſome priſoners, and then retired in triumph. A large number of the Creeks are gone out againſt them.

CHARLES-TOWN, (South Carolina) MARCH 23. "The ſuperfluities imported here from Britain, and other articles, which we may make among ourſelves, are ſuppoſed to have drawn upwards of 100,000 l. ſterling from among us, for ſeveral years preceding the paſſing of the ſtamp-act.---A calculation having been made of the amount of the purchaſe-money of ſlaves expected here the preſent year, it is computed at 270,000 l. ſterling, which ſum will, by that means, be drawn from this province."

NEW-YORK, MARCH 26. "By the Antigua news-papers, we have a relation of a murder committed at that iſland on the 22d of January laſt on two ſeamen; the ſubſtance of which is as follows: On the evening of that day, Robert Dunbar returning home from a public houſe, was met, near the door of his lodgings, by one Butler, a corporal in the army, with the piquet guard, who, after ſome words, aſſaulted Dunbar, whereupon a ſcuffle enſued between him and Butler in the ſtreet; this occaſioned ſeveral ſeamen and others to gather round to ſee what was the matter; and Butler obſerving the crowd, whilſt he was down, ſuddenly cried out to the guard, and ordered them to prime, load, and fire among the thickeſt of them, which being immediately obeyed, two of the ſeamen were ſhot dead upon the ſpot, and one was wounded. The guards were ſoon after taken, and delivered to the civil power, to be dealt with according to law.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, MAY 13,---to 20.

They write from Rome, that the cardinal Torregiani hath propoſed to the ſacred college the erecting an equeſtrian ſtatue of the emperor Joſeph II. after the ſame manner as thoſe formerly erected of the emperors Conſtantine and Charlemagne; and he hath offered to do it at his own expence, if the ſacred college will not be at the charge.---Alſo that,

The number of electors for the nomination of a ſovereign pontiff appears to be complete, by the arrival of the Spaniſh cardinals, and the conclave is now in a condition to carry this important buſineſs efficaciouſly into execution.

They write from Caſinca, that there have juſt appeared there printed copies of the treaty concluded between the crown of France and the republic of Genoa, ſigned at Verſailles the 25th of June 1768. It conſiſts of ſixteen articles, the whole contents of which they have never ſeen there till this time; and that they find it ſo manifeſtly to their prejudice, that they are more and more animated to defend their rights, ſince, if France ſhould ſucceed in ſubduing them, their condition cannot be worſe than it is according to the articles of this treaty.

They write from Paris, that the miniſtry have ſent 22,000 men into the iſland of Corſica ſince the month of March.

A letter from Genoa, dated April 25. ſays, "The French troops have not only diſarmed the inhabitants of Cape-Corſe, but alſo taken away ſeveral hoſtages, in proportion to the number of ſubjects capable of bearing arms. A moſt bloody campaign is expected."

Letters from Corſica ſay, that gen. Paoli is little concerned about the additional numbers of troops that France threatens to ſend to Corſica, as, by the ſituation of the country, exceſſive numbers can neither act effectually, or be ſupplied with proviſions; and that if he ſhould be ſo happy as to receive the ſuccours promiſed him, from generous Britiſh ſpirits, he fears not the whole power of France.

Letters from Algier mention, that an agent of gen. Paoli had lately arrived there, on board an Engliſh veſſel, with ſecret diſpatches to the dey and regency, by whom he was highly careſſed.

It is ſaid that our m——y, at laſt, think it beſt to conquer France in Corſica, as we did laſt war in Germany; and, as a proof of this, all the ſhoops to the Mediterranean are to carry over proper ſupplies of money, arms, ammunition, &c.

We are aſſured by letters from Poland, that in an action which happened on the 9th ult. forty-four gentlemen of the principal families of that kingdom were ſlain, and amongſt them, Malazewſki the younger.

There is a report that the empreſs of Ruſſia has made very important overtures to the grand maſter and the knights of Malta, to aſſiſt her in her preſent rupture with the Turks; and that that warlike community have actually her imperial majeſty's propoſals under ſerious deliberation.

Yeſterday Mr Shadwell, a young gentleman poſſeſſed of a place in the ſecretary of ſtate's office for the Northern department, ſet off for Conſtantinople with diſpatches to our miniſter there.

We hear that this morning an expreſs was ſent off from the ſecretary of ſtate's office for his excellency Sir Andrew Mitchel at Berlin, on affairs ſaid to be of great importance.

By the mails which arrived yeſterday we learn, that the miniſter who was lately inſulted by the populace at Conſtantinople was M. Brognard, from the court of Vienna.

Commiſſions are ſaid to be ſent hither to purchaſe ſeveral ſtout Britiſh ſhips, pierced for carriage guns, for the ſervice of the grand ſignior.

We hear that the emperor of Germany has made an elegant preſent to Mr Hamilton, the Britiſh envoy at Naples, in conſequence of the ſatisfaction that gentleman gave his imperial majeſty, when he accompanied him to viſit Mount Veſuvius.

A fine monument of white marble has been erected at Berlin, by order of his Pruſſian majeſty, to the memory of the late field mareſchal Schwerin, who was ſlain at the battle of Prague in 1757, when he charged the enemy at the head of his regiment, with the colours in his hand.

M. de Voltaire, not content with performing the ceremonies uſed at Eaſter in the Romiſh church, made a kind of ſermon, containing his confeſſion of faith, during the laſt holidays, to a numerous congregation, and took two notaries to witneſs the orthodoxities of it.

Letters from Gibraltar adviſe, that the agents of a certain reſtleſs power are now buſy in ſpiriting up the ſeveral ſtates of Barbary

bary to commence war upon the ſubjects of a great Northern potentate.

Some letters from Liſbon mention, that a very ſpirited memorial has been preſented relative to the oppreſſions which the Britiſh ſubjects ſtill labour under in reſpect to their commerce, while the French and other nations continue to be indulged with a partial preference, in direct oppoſition to the treaties now ſubſiſting between the two crowns.

We hear from Paris, that the inhabitants of Louiſiana have inſtructed their agents to make the ſtrongeſt applications, in order to re eſtabliſh the French government among them, declaring unanimouſly, that if they have the misfortune to be deprived of being ſubjects to France, they will abandon their ſettlements, and leave the Spaniards nothing but a deſart to exerciſe their authority in, being reſolved, in caſe the king will not liſten to their intreaties, to live among the ſavages.

We are aſſured that the ſingular circumſtance of the Eccleſiaſtics taking arms in the iſland of Corſica, was owing to the great influence of one of Paoli's brothers, a clergyman of uncommon abilities, who, from the piety of his life, and the benevolence of his diſpoſition, is almoſt idolized among the inhabitants.

A great patriotic nobleman laſt week, had bills on Leghorn for three thouſand five hundred pounds; intended, it is whiſpered, as a private preſent to gen. Paoli.

By the laſt advices from Jamaica, we are informed of a conſpiracy being diſcovered there, among the negroes, to ſet fire to the town of Kingſton, in ſeveral places at once, and, in the general confuſion, to cut the throats of the inhabitants. A black fellow having an amour with a mulatto girl belonging to a family in the heart of the town, happily ſent her a letter on the very day it was to happen, in which he acquainted her with the deſign, and adviſed her to make her eſcape to him, in order to preſerve her life. On the receipt of which, the girl acquainted her maſter with the contents, and the ringleaders being taken into cuſtody, the town was thus ſaved.

A morning paper ſays, the report is now confirmed, that the differences between the mother-country and our American colonies are at laſt happily ſettled and adjuſted, to the mutual ſatisfaction of both the contending parties.

When the laſt letters came from Boſton, every thing remained quiet in that city; the officers in the army having, by their genteel behaviour, and their good government of the ſoldiers, not a little conciliated the affections of the inhabitants.

It is ſaid that the town of Boſton clears full 250 l per week, by the reſidence of the troops in that place.

By letters from Philadelphia we learn, that the American philoſophical ſociety have erected an obſervatory in the ſtate-houſe-ſquire, for making an obſervation on the enſuing tranſit of Venus, and that ſome aſtronomers are preparing to go as far weſtward as Fort Pitt, in order to make remarks on this phænomenon in that part of America.

The ſwift ſloop of war, of 14 guns, capt. Raynor, which is lately arrived at Portſmouth from her voyage round the globe, has been

been out three years, and ſo healthy during all that time, that they buried only one marine, and brought home but one man ſick.

The ſolicitations of the Eaſt India company, to the miniſtry, for a naval force to be ſent in defence of their Aſiatic territorial poſſeſſions, have, we hear, been complied with; and eight ſhips of the line, two of 74 guns, three of 60, and the reſt of inferior force, are at preſent getting ready, with all diſpatch, for this expedition.

We hear, that the new chairman of the Eaſt India company here in England, by the extenſiveneſs of his correſpondence, has lately diſcovered a ſecret which the French court had cheriſhed with the utmoſt privacy, and which they deemed to be impenetrable: but by the vigilance of this gentleman, it now remains no longer a ſecret, that the court of Verſailles has actually a deſign to make a conqueſt (if not prevented by the Engliſh) of the whole, or, at leaſt, the eaſtern part of the iſland of Madagaſcar. This iſle extends full ten degrees from north to ſouth; it lies to the weſt of the iſle of Bourbon, and the iſle of France, but in the ſame latitude; ſo that the diſcovery of this ſtate-ſecret ſufficiently accounts for the French court's ſending ſuch an amazing number of foot forces into that part of Aſia.

Letters from Amſterdam, dated the 12th inſt. mention, that Cap. Emſdorff, who lately arrived there from the Cape of Good Hope, gives an account of the French having landed a large body of troops in a fine harbour on the ſouth-eaſt part of the iſland of Madagaſcar, that they had thrown up three redoubts in the ſame place, and that a great quantity of proviſions and implements of huſbandry had been embarked at St. Mauritius, for the uſe of the people at this new ſettlement.

A letter from Paris, dated April 23. ſays, "The number of ſtudents who died of poiſon in the Seminary of Caen, amounts to 30; many more, who were dangerouſly ill, are likely to recover."

Conſiderable wagers have been laid at the Weſt end of the town, that (provided the fortreſs of Azoph, as reported, is taken from the Turks), the Ruſſians will be maſters of Conſtantinople before this day twelvemonth; and large odds have been taken, by two or three perſons of conſequence, that the Ruſſian troops will even garriſon that capital the enſuing winter.

Great pains, we are informed, are taken to prevent the Middleſex petition from being preſented. However, it is upon its travels, and on Saturday laſt was ſubſcribed by full 2000 freeholders.

It is now given out that a popular gentleman has expreſſed a willingneſs to go and reſide abroad for a continuance, if his diſcharge can be obtained, and matters ſettled to the ſatisfaction of his creditors.

It is likewiſe ſaid, that the above mentioned gentleman is ſo heartily diſguſted at the defection and inſincerity of ſome who had profeſſed unalterable friendſhip to him, that he really wiſhes himſelf out of the kingdom, that he may never hear of, or ſee them any more.

On the other hand, it is rumoured a noble lord has declared, that the conduct of a popular gentleman is ſo eccentric, owing to his exceſſive high ſpirit, that he

he will not ſuffer any man to continue long his friend, otherwiſe he would never have deſerted him, which he did at the time of the publication of the introduction to a certain letter.

It is confidently ſaid, that Mr Wilkes does not owe 1000 l. to any one perſon. If ſo, he has a right to the benefit of the laſt inſolvent act.

Laſt Saturday capt. Allen ſent a letter of remonſtrance to Sir William Meredith, which Sir William conſidered as a challenge, and immediately applied to Lord Mansfield, and ſwore the peace againſt Capt. Allen, for which he was obliged on Monday laſt to enter into recognizances at the judge's chambers, for his appearance the firſt day of next term in the court of King's Bench, Weſtminſter-hall. Sir William was much alarmed at receiving ſuch a letter, and gave the tipſtaff particular orders to let him know when he had the captain in cuſtody. Several proceedings are expected upon this buſineſs.

We are aſſured, that Mr Strange has been offered the ſum of eleven hundred guineas for the picture of the holy family, done by the celebrated Raphael.

Such is the luxury of ſome of our city ladies, that on Wedneſday laſt the wives of two inferior ſhopkeepers near St. Pauls, gave each 75 guineas for a gold watch.

It is computed, that above 60,000 l. per ann. may be raiſed by a duty of 20 s. each on the venders of old cloaths within the bills of mortality.

A tax of five pounds per anuum, on every French ſervant in this kingdom, and forty ſhillings on every negro, is confidently talked of.

An Hibernian obſerving a reward of one hundred pounds was offered for the apprehending of M'Quirk, ſaid ſo large a ſum was very tempting, and he ſhould not be ſurpriſed if ſome of M'Quirk's *beſt friends* ſhould apprehend him. Another paddy, ſitting by him, made the following reply, "If I was M'Quirk, the d—l burn me If a would not *apprehend myſelf* for the ſake of an hundred pound."

The ornaments on the box of very nice workmanſhip, made from a mulberry tree, planted by Shakeſpeare himſelf, which incloſed the freedom of Stratford upon Avon, lately preſented to Mr Garrick, are, on the front, fame holding the buſt of Shakeſpeare, and the three graces crowning him with laurel, prettily diſplayed; on the ends, emblematical figures repreſenting tragedy and comedy; on the back part, Mr Garrick in the character of Lear, in the ſtorm ſcene; and the top and corners are ornamented with devices of Shakeſpeare's works, all curiouſly carved and highly finiſhed, by an eminent carver in Birmingham.

We hear that it is determined by the miniſtry, that all the acts relative to taxing America ſhall be repealed at the opening of the next ſeſſions of parliament.

Some grand fireworks were played off in Richmond gardens laſt night in honour of her majeſty's birth-day, under the direction of a principal engineer from Woolwich, when their majeſties, moſt of the royal family, many of the nobility, foreign miniſters, &c. were preſent.

We hear that on Teuſday next his grace the duke of Grafton will be married to Miſs Elizabeth Wrotteſley,

Wrotteſley, third daughter of ſir Richard Wrotteſley, bart.

We hear there will ſoon be a change of Britiſh conſuls at moſt of the trading ports in the Levant and Mediterranean.

It was rumoured on 'change yeſterday, that public ſubſcripti ons are now actually on foot in North America, for the emolument of Mr Wilkes.

We are told, that there have been ſpies employed by the m—y to attend every meeting both at the Mile-end and London Taverns, and they have been preciſely informed of every minute tranſaction in thoſe meetings, and of the principal perſons preſent.

The eraſement of names from the Middleſex petition on comparing it with a liſt of real freeholders, is ſaid to have been very conſiderable

We are informed that great numbers of Britiſh manufacturers are actually preparing to ſet out for Boſton, Philadelphia, and New-York.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH, MAY 29.

Extract of a letter from Kilmarnock, May 16.

"The ſmall pox is ſtill raging in this place, and threatening greater mortality, as the ſeaſon advances—Inoculation however is now in much requeſt among all ranks of people, and great numbers have found the happy effects of it this ſpring.—It has been indeed ſo completely ſucceſsful, under the inſpection of Dr Jaſper Tough, M. D. that it is ſaid in the whole of that gentleman's extenſive practice, there has not yet happened one death by it.—On Saturday laſt, a young man climbing up a tree in this neighbourhood, to pull down a bird's neſt, unluckily fell to the ground (by the branch on which he reſted giving way), and was ſo much hurt, that his life is deſpaired of."

On Thurſday laſt came on at Aberdeen before the right hon. lord Auchinleck, the trial of William Robertſon, merchant or ſhopkeeper there, for theft. Next morning the jury returned a verdict, finding the libel fully proven; in conſequence of which he was baniſhed to the plantations for ſeven years.—On the 19th came on the trial of William, John, and Alexander Ellis, for the alledged murder of Robert Hendry, reſidenter in Huntly. The advocate-depute having reſtricted the libel to an arbitrary puniſhment, it appeared in the courſe of the proof, that the pannels had been formerly convicted of the ſame crime before the baron-court of Huntly, upon which the advocate depute recommended to the jury to find a verdict acquitting them, and they were accordingly diſmiſſed from the bar.—Next day Hugh M'Cleod, alias M'Bain, indicted for theft and houſe-breaking, and James Gordon in Ordrettan, for horſe ſtealing, having petitioned for baniſhment, and the advocate-depute conſenting, they were baniſhed to the plantations for life.—The ſame day came on the trials of Iſabel Cumming, for theft, and of John Hay, ſervant to William Lemon in Culriach, for a rape; but the jury having found both libels not proven, they were aſſoilzied.

On Saturday laſt a young child, when diverting itſelf in Nicolſon's park, was overun by a horſe and cart, and killed on the ſpot.

On Thurſday laſt, after his grace

grace had preſented his majeſty's commiſſion, appointing him to repreſent his perſon in this Aſſembly; alſo the letter and warrant for the royal bounty of a thouſand pounds; a committee was appointed to draw up an anſwer to the letter, and likewiſe a dutiful and loyal addreſs to his majeſty.—Accordingly next day two ſeparate addreſſes were preſented, concerning the propriety of which ſome debates enſued.

On Sunday forenoon, the rev. Dr Blinſhall, miniſter at Dundee, and in the afternoon, the rev. Mr Warden, miniſter in Canongate, preached before his grace the commiſſioner; and on Sunday next, the rev. Mr Woodrow, miniſter at Stevenſon, is appointed to preach in the forenoon, and the rev. Mr Muir, miniſter at Paiſley, in the afternoon.

On Saturday and Monday, the Aſſembly had under conſideration various conteſted commiſſions to different members who had voted in the election of a moderator, to ſome of whom the objections were ſuſtained, on account of informalities, and others were held good.

On Tueſday the Aſſembly had under conſideration the cauſe concerning the ſettlement of the parith of St Ninians. The aſſembly in 1767 had ſuſtained Mr Thomſon's preſentation as good, and ordained the preſbytery of Stirling to proceed in the moderation of a call, according to the rules of the church. The affair came again by appeal before laſt Aſſembly, againſt a ſentence of the preſbytery of Stirling, and of the ſynod of Perth and Stirling, finding no ſufficient call in favour of the preſentee, which ſentence the Aſſembly were pleaſed to affirm. The patron, ſir John Stewart of Allanbank, in virtue of a right of patronage aſſigned him by Mr Seton of Touch, with the heretors who had formerly concurred, together with an additional number of concurrers, then applied to the preſbytery of Stirling to proceed in the moderation, as there was now a ſufficient concurrence to the preſentation; but the preſbytery found they could not reſume the conſideration of the cauſe, as they judged the ſentence of the Aſſembly to be final. This the ſynod likewiſe found; and in this ſhape the cauſe made its appearance before the preſent Aſſembly. After hearing council, and very long debates among the members, Whether the aſſembly had power to judge in a cauſe, which was alledged to be finally determined by the laſt Aſſembly? Or Whether the former Aſſembly had under their conſideration only a call, which was then found inſufficient? it was inſiſted by moſt, that if a ſufficient number of concurrers had ſince acceded, they had certainly power to judge, whether the preſbytery had done right or wrong in refuſing to examine the the merits of the call as laſt offered. Accordingly it came to the following ſtate of a vote; *affirm* the ſentence of the preſbytery and ſynod, finding it incompetent to take the new call under their conſideration; or *reverſe* the ſame. It carried *Reverſe*, by which it was previouſly underſtood they were to give directions to the preſbytery for their future conduct: But it being then late, the conſideration of theſe were deferred till yeſterday, when, after ſome debate, it was agreed upon without a vote, that the preſbytery of Stirling do, betwixt the laſt of June and firſt of September next, proceed

ceed to the moderation of a call to the preſentee.—Then the Aſſembly entered upon the conſideration of the overtnre concerning the law of patronages, and after very long debates, and ſitting late, they, upon a vote, refuſed to ſuſtain the committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly.

MARRIAGES.

MAY 6. At Barnet, the Rt. hon. the earl of Northampton, to Miſs Hougham of Broadſtreet.

18. At Twickenham, John Parker, Eſq; M. P. for the county of Devon, to Miſs Thereſa Robinſon, youngeſt daughter to lord Grantham. She was born at Vienna when her father was ambaſſador at that court, and the empreſs queen of Hungary was ſponſor in perſon at her baptiſm, whoſe name ſhe bears.

BIRTH.

MAY 19. At London, the lady of the hon. baron Winn, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

MAY 5. The rev. Mr William Orr, miniſter of the goſpel at Spott, in the 43d year of his miniſtry and 74th of his age; a man of a moſt amiable character, whoſe loſs is very much and very juſtly regretted.

8. In Wiltſhire, James Touchet, earl of Caſtlehaven in Ireland, and baron Audley in England, aged 46.

16. At London, the counteſs-dowager of Denbigh, aged 76.

16. At Ditto, the Rt. hon lady Mary Chabot, ſiſter of the late Matthias, earl of Stafford.

—In Wiltſhire, Mrs Anne Lightfoot, aged 29, ſaid to be as big as the late Mr Bright of Malden in Eſſex.

18. At Peebles, Dr George Grieve, an eminent phyſician.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVED. At Leith, the Proſperity of Chriſtianſands, Stouſtone, from ditto, with wood; the Elizabeth of Cromarty, Robertſon, from ditto, with oats, yarn, and Fairntoſh whiſky, the Charming Sally of Cramond, Halden, from Alemouth, with oats and wheat; the Integrity of Leith, Pew, from Hamburgh, with rags, hides and fruit; the Betſey of North-Berwick, Oliphant, from ditto, with malt; the Diligence of Leith, Caſſels, from London, with wheat and merchant goods; the Peggie of Leith, Pitcairn, from London, with ditto; the Union of Leith, Couts, from Southampton, with bark and wood; the Adorana of Leith, Crawford, from Rotterdam, with flax and merchant goods; the Manwell of Chriſtianſands, Millbank, from ditto. with wood; the Nelly of Leith, Crawford, from Southampton, with ditto; the Joſeph of Lynn, Meſſinghame, from ditto, with oats and barley; the Nelly of Leith, Bonthron, from Hull, with oats and wheat; the Induſtry of Leith, Findlay, from Altena, with merchant goods; the Betſey of Dundee, Lyall, from ditto, with merchant goods; the Alexander and John of Dunbar, Quarrier, from ditto, with flour and bran; the Betſey of Blyth, Steil, from Newcaſtle, with merchant goods; the Suſanna of Yarmouth, Keddie, from ditto, with wheat; the Robert of Shiels, Potter, from Redbridge, with oak-wood; the William of Aberdour, Johnſton, from Stockton, with oats; the Greenhead of Leith, Lamb, from Rotterdam, with flax and merchant goods; the Lark of Stockton, Eaſon, from ditto. with wheat; the Benjamin and Lady of Hull, Evans, from Stockton, with ditto; the Roſe in June of Hartlepool, Duncan, from ditto, with ditto; and the Katharine of Bergen, Buda, from Anſtruther, with bricks.

SAILED. The Agnes of Leith, Glaſgow, for Carron, with wheat: the Margaret of Kincardine, Dick, for Alloa, with wool; and the George of Pambride, Betty, for ditto, with ditto.

PRICES of GRAIN at HADDINGTON, MAY 23.

	First.		Second.		Third.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat	20	0	19	0	18	0
Barley	16	0	15	0	14	0
Oats	13	6	12	9	10	6
Peaſe	13	4	12	6	11	8

MOON'S AGE.	TIDE at LEITH.	
D.	Morn.	Even.
May 26—21	5 57	6 19
27—22	6 40	7 2
28—23	7 23	7 53
29—24	8 23	8 53
30—25	9 24	9 54
31—26	10 24	10 54
June 1—27	11 22	11 52